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Ch. Mohammad Zafrullah Khan, Hon. M. Mustafa of Sierra Leone and Alhaj Maulvi Mohammad Siddique, in Singapur

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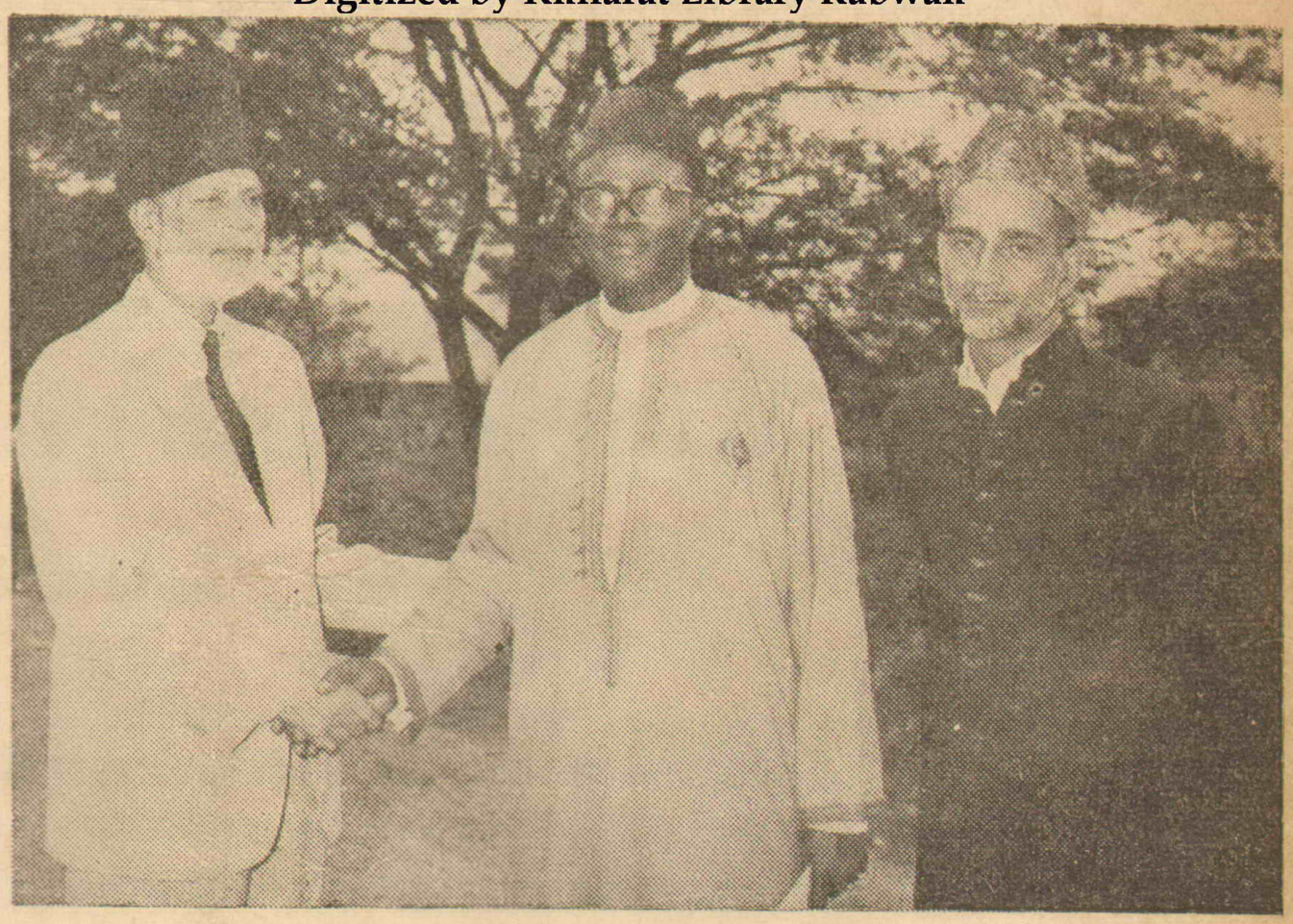
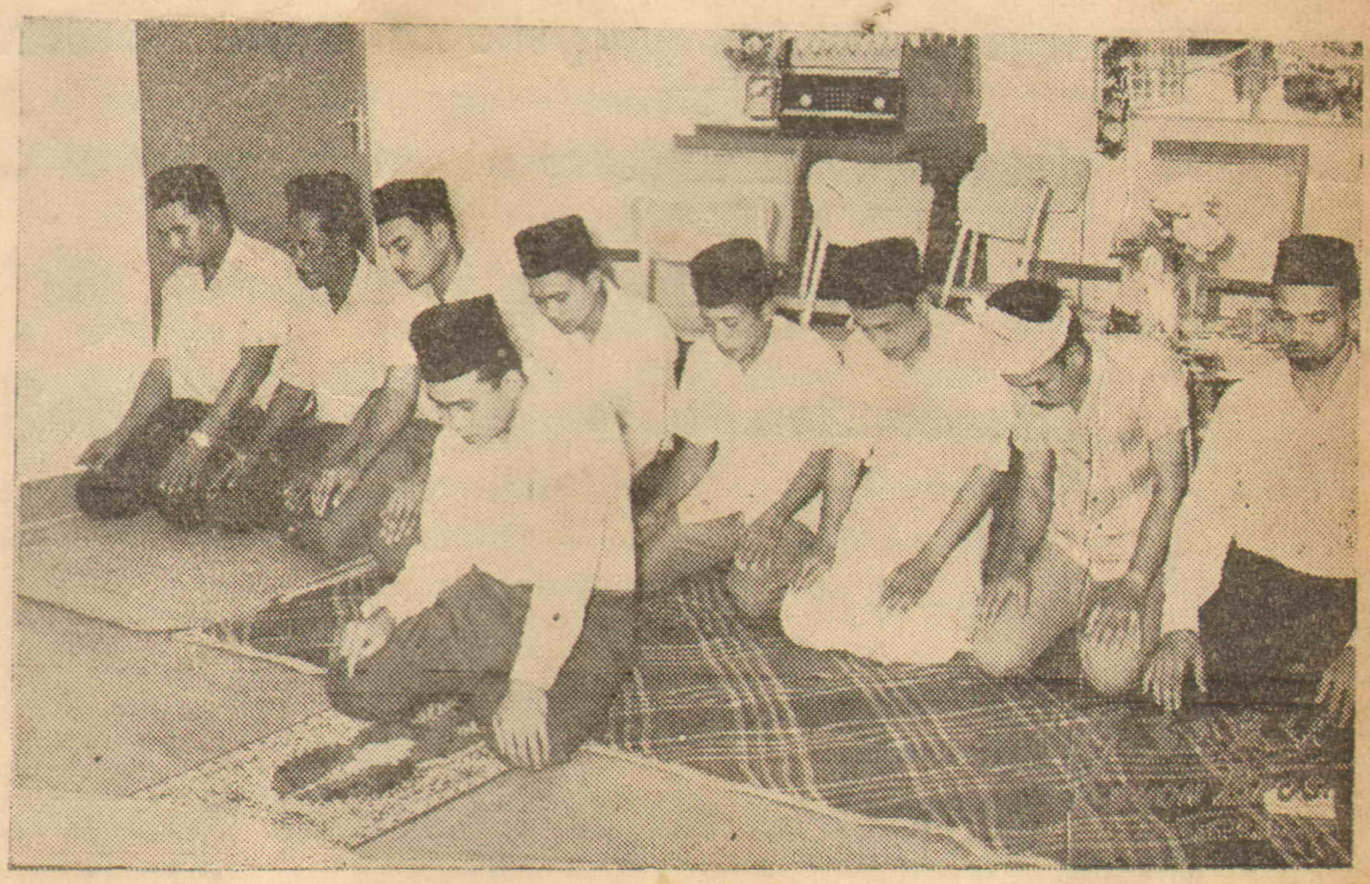


مکرم چوھدری محمد ظفراللہ خاں صاحب اٹرنیبل مصطفی صاحب آف سیرالیون اور مکرم الحاج مولوی محمد صدیق صاحب امرتسری کےساتھ ۔ یہ تصویر سنگاپور میں لی گئی تھی ۔

Members of the Ahmadiyya, community, Sanadakan, Saba are seen praying. Extreme right is Maulvi B. A. Naseem.



احمدیہ جماعت سنڈاکن۔سبا۔کے ارکان حالت نماز میں دائیں طرف سے پہلے مولوی بشارت احمد صاحب نسیم ہیں

The Holy Quran

With English Translation

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(New Edition 1967)

Translated by Late Maulavi Sher Ali and revised by a board of Arabic scholars under the auspices of Hazrat Mirza Bashiruddin Mahmud Ahmad, Second Successor of the Promised Messiah.

This translation is the same as given in the volume containing the commentary of the Holy Quran and as such is firmly based on a sound knowledge of the Arabic language. It will serve the purpose of those readers who without going into details want to have a general view of the Quranic issues.

This volume also includes the relevant portions of the Introduction to the Study of the Holy Quran.

Pages 818 **(Size $8\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{4}$")**

The Oriental & Religious Publishing Corporation Ltd.,
Rabwah, W. Pakistan.

Address delivered by
Hazrat Mirza Nasir Ahmad, Khalifatul Masih III
on 28th July, 1967, at the Wandsworth Town Hall,
London, S.W.

A MESSAGE OF PEACE
AND
A WORD OF WARNING

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As Head of the Ahmadiyya Movement I have the honour to occupy a spiritual office. In that capacity, I am charged with responsibilities which I am not permitted to lay aside at any time till I draw my last breath. These responsibilities embrace all my fellow-beings, every one of whom because of that fraternal bond, is dear to me.

Gentlemen, mankind finds itself at this moment at the brink of disaster. In that context I am the bearer of a momentous message for you and for all my brethren. Having regard to the occasion, I shall endeavour to make it brief.

My message is of peace and harmony and of hope for mankind. I earnestly hope that you will listen carefully to what I have to say and to ponder it with an open and enlightened mind.

The year 1835 occupies a place of pride in the human calendar. In that year a child was born in Qadian, an obscure village in the north of India. For generations his forbears had ruled the area around Qadian with great distinction. But the great house had fallen on lean days and lost much of its glory. The child that was born was no ordinary child. He was destined to bring about a great revolution not only in the realm of the spirit but also in the realm of matter. He was named Ghulam Ahmad by his parents and later became known to the world as Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad Qadiani. He was appointed by God, as the Messiah and the Mahdi.

Family records indicate that he was born on February 13, 1835. It was an age of ignorance. Not many people in that part of India were fond of learning. Hardly a few could read and write. Often a letter would remain unread for want of a reader.

The tutors engaged for the instruction of this child were not very learned. They taught him to read the Holy Quran. But they were not competent enough to impart even rudimentary instruction in the meaning and spiritual profundities of the Holy Book. They also gave him elementary instruction in Arabic and Persian. He learnt to read the two languages but did not acquire any proficiency in them. He studied some books on the indigenous system of medicine under the guidance of his father who was a renowned physician. This was the sum total of his formal education. True, he was fond of books and was usually occupied with reading them in his father's library. But as learning and scholarship were not much esteemed

at the time, his father wanted him to assist him in managing his mundane affairs and to interest himself in them and win social esteem and popularity. Hence his father tried to dissuade him from his studies and warned him against becoming a bookworm.

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It is clear that with such elementary education he could not have carried out the stupendous task entrusted to him by Allah. Therefore, Allah Himself became his guide and teacher and taught him the meaning of the Holy Quran, and the secrets of the spirit and of life. He illumined his mind with His own light and blessed him with the mastery of the pen, and with beauty and sweetness of expression and helped him write scores of books of unsurpassed brilliance and to deliver discourses which are rich repositories of learning and spiritual knowledge.

The time of his birth had been foretold by the earlier prophets and found prominent mention in their sayings and scriptures. I would here mention only one such prophecy, by the Holy Prophet Mohammad, Chief of the Prophets (on whom be peace). He had prophesied about the Mahdi more than thirteen hundred years before that a number of false claimants to the office of the Promised Messiah and Mahdi would arise among the Muslims. None of them would be the true Mahdi, except one, who will be a true follower of the Holy Prophet and to establish the truth of his claim two great heavenly signs will appear. These signs will be the solar and lunar eclipses which shall take place in the sme month of Ramadhan. The lunar eclipse would occur on the first of the possible nights of such eclipses i.e, the 13th. The Solar eclipse would occur on the second of the possible days of such eclipses i.e., the 28th.

The fixing of the month of Ramadhan out of all the months of the year and again the fixing of definite dates of the eclipses was a mighty prophecy indeed. To foretell such a conjunction of events was to transcend beyond the limits of human knowledge. In fact when the time came the claimant actually appeared and declared himself to be the Mahdi and this was followed by the two heavenly signs—the two eclipses—as foretold with precision and exactitude. Most certainly this prophetic utterance of the Holy Prophet, as events some thirteen hundred years later proved, was truly divinely inspired and of superhuman origin.

The prophecy was fulfilled in this manner. The child who was born in 1835 declared in 1891 that he was the Promised Messiah and Mahdi. In support of his claim he advanced numerous arguments and cited a large number of heavenly signs; and also presented to the world a number of his own prophecies some of which were fulfilled in his own time while the fulfilment of others took place later and continues to this day. The contemporary theologians rejected his claim. One of the reasons for this rejection put forward by them was that the prophecy of the Holy Prophet, namely, the one about the solar and the lunar eclipses which were to take place in a certain month and on certain dates and which was to be a sign of the truth of such a claimant, had not yet been fulfilled. Therefore, according to them, he could not be the Mahdi. But the Omnipotent and Almighty God always keeps His promises and treats His sincere servants with love and constancy. In keeping with His promise and the prophecy of the Holy Prophet, the solar and lunar eclipses took place in the exact month and on the exact dates in 1894 and thus manifested to the whole

world that the God of Mohammad (on whom be His peace and blessings) is All powerful and Supreme. He showed this sign not once but twice, for it was repeated the following year in the western hemisphere. The two eclipses occured in the precise month and on precise dates so that the people of the orient and the occident, of the new world and the old, should bear witness to the supreme glory and power of God and the truth of the Holy Prophet Mohammad and his spiritual son Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. Great is the Holy Prophet who made the prophecy on the basis of divine knowledge and great is his spiritual son in whose person it was fulfilled.

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From Mohammad (on whom be peace and blessings) to Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, in the course of thirteen hundred years, quite a few persons claimed to be Mahdis but the sun and the moon did not bear witness to the truth of anyone except in the case of Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. This alone should be enough to make you to consider, dispassionately and earnestly, and ponder the claim of this claimant whose message I have the honour to convey to you this evening and by whose side the sun and the moon stood as eager witnesses to his truth and veracity.

So far about the sun and the moon ; let us now, turn towards the earth and hear what it says. With the coming of the Promised Messiah and Mahdi strange and extraordinary upheavals and revolutionary changes, both physical and spiritual, were bound to take place. In fact all the various revolutions and major historical changes are different dimensions of the same revolutionary process which was initiated with his advent as Mahdi and Messiah and bear witness to his truth. What is more these upheavals are taking place as predicted by the Holy Prophet and by the Promised Messiah. Let me cite some examples.

During the early days of the mission of the Promised Messiah there was no eastern country that could rival the might of the civilized and powerful nations of the West. Then in 1904 it was revealed to him that soon certain eastern nations would emerge as important world powers challenging the supremacy of the West. Soon after Japan defeated Russia in 1905 and established its claim as an Eastern World Power. Then, after the fall of Japan in World War II, China emerged as a great Oriental Power. The rise of these two nations as world powers changed the course of history and as the years go by their impact will be felt on an even vaster scale.

All this has happened in conformity with the Divine Will as revealed to the Promised Messiah.

Another important event of this age which profoundly influenced the whole world is the liquidation of the Czar and his imperialist regime and the triumph of communism. The Russian Revolution which seems to have changed the course of history took place exactly in keeping with prophetic utterances of the Promised Messiah. It was in 1905 that he prophesied, on the basis of divine revelation, that the Czar of Russia and his family and their system of Government would face dire distress. It is a strange coincidence that within months of this prophetic announcement the foundation of a political party was laid which, some 12 or 13 years latter destroyed the monarchy and the royal house of the Czars. The eventual rise of communism and its vast ramifications are too well-known to need elaboration. Suffice it to say that the overthrow of Czarist regime and the

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triumph of communism in Russia and elsewhere is a tragic chapter of human history wh ch makes painful reading but which can on no account be ignored. No country in the world, including your own, has been immune against its impact. But we are neither surprised nor upset at the way events have moved. Their intensity, speed, and direction were all foretold by the Promised Messiah and will be found in due time to have contributed materially to the consummation of the divi e scheme. It had been predicted and the prediction was graphic and detailed that in the days of the Mahdi and Promised Messiah, two great powers would emerge and the world would be split into two hostile camps. No other power would be strong enough to challenge their supremacy. They would eventually clash and fight each other and perish in the process. This, however, is not the only war against which the Promised Messiah and Mahdi warned. He prophesied five major catastrophes of world dimensions.

About the first World War, he declared that it would overtake the world suddenly. The world would be shocked. Travellers would be faced with great trouble. Rivers would turn red with blood. The young would be shocked into senility. Mountains would explode. The horrors of war would make people mad. It would be the time of the Czar's destruction. The seed of world communism would be sown. Fleets would be kept at combat ready. Great naval battles would be fought. Empires would be over-thrown and cities would turn into graveyards.

This holocaust was to be followed by another world war of even vaster dimensions and deadlier consequences. This was to change the map of the world and reshape the destinies of nations. Communism was to appear as a world force and begin dictating terms. Vast areas were to fall under its sway. That is exactly what happened after the second World War. Many countries of Eastern Europe turned communist and 700 million people of China followed. The emerging nations of Africa a d Asia are greately influenced by communism. The world is divided into two hostile camps, each armed to the teeth with the latest sophisticated weapons ready to hurl mankind into a burning hell of death and destruction.

The Promised Messiah also prophesied that a third world war of even bigger dimensions would follow the second. The two opposing camps will clash with such suddenness that every one will be caught unawares. Death and destruction will rain from the sky and fierce flames shall engulf the earth.

The colossus of modern civilisation will tumble to the ground. Both the communist and the opposing blocks will perish in the process. Russia and its satellites on the one hand and the U.S. and its allies on the other, shall be destroyed, their might broken, their civilization ruined and their system shattered. The survivors shall stand aghast and amazed at the tragedy. Russia will recover sooner from the calamity than the West. The prophecy is clear that the Russian population will recover and multiply rapidly. They will be reconciled to their Creator and will accept Islam and the Holy Prophet of Islam. A people who are seeking to wipe out the name of God from the earth and to drive Him out of the skies will realize the folly of their ways and at long last submit to Him as staunch believers in His Unity and Oneness.

Tahrik-i-Jadid

You may consider this a fantasy. But those who survive the third world war will witness and bear out the truth of what I have said. These are the words of God Almighty. They shall be fulfilled. No one can avert His decree.

The end of the third world war will be the beginning of the triumph of Islam. People will accept its truth in large numbers and will realize that Islam alone is the true religion and that the emancipation of man is to be won through the message of Mohammad alone (on whom be peace).

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All these events are important landmarks in the history of man. The emergence of Japan and later of China as world powers on the oriental horizon, the complete annihilation of Czarist Russia, the triumph of communism and its growing influence in the world at large the first great war that changed the map of the world and the second world war which brought about a cataclysmic upheaval in the world, are no ordinary events. They happened as had been prophesied. We must remember that the Promised Messiah fulfilld his mission and passed into the mercy of Allah on May 26, 1908. All these prophecies had been given wide publicity long before.

It is certain, therefore, that the revelation and prophecies about the ultimate and universal triumph of Islam will also come to pass in their own good time. For they are links of the same chain.

The signs of the revival of Islam are already visible. They may not be very clear yet but they are easily discernible. The sun of Islam will finally rise in its full splendour and illumine the world. But before that happens the world must experience another war—a bloodbath—that will leave mankind shaken and chastened.

But, gentlemen, let us not forget that this prophecy, like all prophecies, is a warning and its fulfilment can be delayed or even averted provided man turns to his Lord, repents and mends his ways. He can yet avert Divine wrath if he stops worshipping the false deities of wealth, power and prestige, establishes a genuine relationship with his Lord, refrains from all transgression, does his duty to God and man, and learns to work for true human welfare. It all depends on the nations that dominate the world today and who are intoxicated by the heady wine of wealth, power and prestige. Are they willing to shake off this state of inebriation? Are they eager for spiritual bliss and happiness?

If not, Divine wrath is bound to descend. If they do not give up their evil ways and persist in their arrogance no power and no false gods shall avail them aught against the the promised chastisement.

Be kind, therefore, to your own selves and to your children! Listen to the voice of your Lord, Most Gracious, Ever Merciful. May He smile on you with compassion and grant you the strength and the opportunity to accept and to profit from the truth.

Now a word about the spiritual revolution which Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, the great spiritual son of the Holy Prophet Mohammad (on whom be the peace and blessings of Allah) was destined to bring about. We must recall that at the time of his advent the world of Islam was passing

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through a period of extreme helplessness and decadence. Muslims were poor and ignorant. Industrially they were backward and had lost their initiative in commerce and business. Political power had deserted them. Nowhere in the world did they enjoy real independence. Morally they were bankrupt and were suffering from an acute sense of frustration. They had lost even the will to rise and join the living nations of the world. Islam was being attacked on all sides and there was no one to defend it. Christianity was the most bitter and the most active of its enemies. Its missionaries had gone out to all parts of the world, leading a bitter onslaght against Islam. Christian money and political power were ready and eager to help. Their main target was always Islam. Christianity was so confident of its victory that its advocates had triumphantly declared :

1. The continent of Africa was in their pocket.
2. There would not be a single Muslim left in India.
3. The time had come to hoist the flag of Christianity over Mecca.

As against all this Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad was alone except for a few penniless Muslims who had gathered round him. He had no power, no money and no political backing. But He Who is Lord and Master of all was his Helper. It was He who commissioned him to proclaim to the world that the days of the revival of Islam were at hand, and that the day was not far when Islam would triumph over all other faiths through its spiritual power.

A word of explanation, however, before I proceed further. Islam teaches and we Muslims all sincerely believe, that Jesus Christ was a righteous prophet of God and that his mother was a model of virtue. Both are spoken of in the Quran as worthy of veneration ; indeed Mary is mentioned in the Quran as an example of purity and is referred to more reverently there than in the Gospels. The Quran, however, condemns with the utmost severity, their exaltation into divinities by the Church. That, and the refusal of the Church to accept the Holy Prophet Mohammad (on whom be the peace) have become the sharp dividing lines between Church Christianity and Islam.

The Promised Messiah has said : "I am constantly cogitating over the possibility of a decision between us and Church Christianity. My heart bleeds over the errors of worshipping the dead. For, what could be more painful than that a humble human being should be worshipped as God and a mere handful of dust be proclaimed as the Lord of all the worlds. I would have died of grief long before if God Who is my Lord and Master had not comforted me that the Unity of Allah will triumph in the end ; all other deities will perish ; false gods will be stripped of their alleged divinity; the period of Mary being worshipped as Mother of God will come to an end ; and the doctrine of the divinity of her son too will die. God Almighty says (in the Quran) : If I so will, Mary and her son Jesus and all who inhabit the earth shall perish. Now, He has willed that the false divinity of both of them should suffer death. The two divinities, therefore must die. No one can save them. With them shall die all those propensities which prompted obedience to false gods. There will be a new heaven and a new earth. The days are near when the sun of truth shall rise in the West and Europe shall come to know the true God. Thereafter the door of repentance shall close. For, those who desired to enter will have entered

with eagerness. Only those will remain without whose hearts are sealed by nature, who love not light but darkness. All faiths shall perish except Islam and all weapons shall break except the heavenly weapon of Islam which shall neither break nor be blunted until it smashes the forces of darkness into bits. The time is close at hand when the pure Unity of God that even dwellers of deserts who are ignorant of all faiths, feel in their hearts, will spread throughout. On that day no false redemption or false god shall survive. One blow of the divine hand will nullify all machinations of disbelief, but not with the sword or the gun but by means of enlightening a number of souls with divine light and by imbuing pious hearts with divine effulgence. Only then will you understand what I say". (Tabligh-i-Risalat : Vol. vi pp. 8, 9).

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Since these prophetic utterances were made, the world of religion has been completely transformed. The vast continent of Africa instead of joining the ranks of Christianity is gathering under the banner of Islam. In India, the Christian missionaries fight shy of facing even inexperienced young Ahmadis. The wish of hoisting the Christian flag over Mecca remains and shall ever remain a vain desire.

The signs of the fulfilment of the prophecies about the victory of Islam are becoming more and more evident. I have just discussed the prophecy about the third world war after which Islam will triumphantly emerge in its full glory and I have also pointed out that this catastrophe can be averted through sincere contrition and by treading the path of virtue as taught by Islam. It is for you to choose and save yourselves and your children by establishing a true relationship with God based on certainty and conviction or to doom yourselves and your progeny to total annihilation by opting for paths that lead away from Him. The Divine Warner has warned you in the name of God and His Messenger, the Holy Prophet Mohammad (peace and blessings of God be on him). He has done his duty. It is my prayer that God grant you the strength and courage to do your duty. Let me conclude in his own words :

> "Remember, God has informed me of many earthquakes. Rest assured, therefore, that as earthquakes have shaken America and Europe so will they shake Asia. Some of them will resemble the Day of Doom. So many people shall die that rivulets of blood shall flow. Even the birds and the beasts will not be immune against this death. A havoc shall sweep the surface of the earth which shall be the greatest since the birth of man. Habitations shall be demolished as if no one had ever lived in them. This will be accompanied by many other terrible calamities which the earth and the heavens will send forth, till their extraordinary nature will become evident to every reasonable man. All the literature of science and philosophy shall fail to show their like. Then mankind will be sore distressed and wonder what is going to happen. Many shall escape and many perish. The days are near, in fact. I can see them close at hand, when the world shall witness a terrible sight. Not only earthquakes but also many fearsome calamities shall overtake man, some from the skies and some from the earth. This will happen because mankind have stopped worshipping their true God and have become lost in the affairs of the world with all their heart and

their effort and their intent. If I had not come these afflictions would perhaps have been delayed a little. But with my coming the secret purposes of an affronted God which were hidden so far, became manifest. Says God: 'We never punish unless We send a Messenger.'

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Those who repent shall find security and those who fear before calamity overtakes them shall be shown mercy. Do you think you will be immune from these calamities? Or can you save yourselves through artifice or design? Indeed not. That day all human schemes shall fail. Think not that earthquakes visited America and other continents but that your own country shall remain secure. Indeed, you may experience a greater hardship. O Europe, you are not safe and O Asia, you too, are not immune. And O dwellers of Islands, no false gods shall come to your rescue. I see cities fall and settlements laid waste. The One and the Only God kept silent for long. Heinous deeds were done before His eyes and He said nothing. But now He shall reveal His face in majesty and awe. Let him who has ears hear that the time is not far. I have done my best to bring all under the protection of God but it was destined that what was written should come to pass. Truly do I say that the turn of this land, too, is approaching fast. The times of Noah shall reappear before your eyes and your own eyes will be witness to the calamity that overtook the cities of Lot. But God is slow in His wrath. Repent that you may be shown mercy! He who does not fear Him is dead, not alive".

(*Haqiqatul Wahy pp. 256-57*)

Our last word is: All praise belongs to Allah, the Lord of the worlds.

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